

prove that under cultivation low, wet soils would be the best. From my own experience with this species of the huckleberry, I would not choose low, wet soils in which to plant it for fruit, but in a sandy, or, at least, well-drained one. The plants thrive best in peat and the almost pure vegetable deposits of the swamps; also in the light, sandy soils, and even high up in the hills of New Jersey and adjoining States, in light, sandy soils, in which the running blackberries and five-finger plant have to struggle to obtain nutriment from the sterile soil. A plant that will grow and thrive—bearing a heavy crop of fruit in moderately favorable seasons—in such soils will certainly thrive under good cultivation, provided the soil is not a heavy, unctuous clay. I have had no experience in cultivating the huckleberry on clay soils; but in sand, or sandy loam, they may be grown almost as readily as currants or gooseberries.

The plants can be had in abundance from the open fields and swamps, and usually they can be lifted with good roots, and then by cutting away the older stems—leaving the younger and more thrifty—there is no difficulty whatever in making them live. The past spring I had occasion to move some plants of the high-bush huckleberry that were set out eighteen years ago. They were dug up, and with saw and hand-axe the stools were divided up and replanted, and all have lived and are now growing finely and even bearing fruit. I have dug up wild plants for my own use and for several of my correspondents and friends almost every season for the past twenty years or longer, and have not as yet discovered that the huckleberries of any of the species are at all difficult to make grow or thrive under cultivation. They may all be propagated by layers or seed; but the latter is a slow process, as the plants make little progress for the first few years, and we may

save a decade or two by taking up the wild plants.

As there are several distinct natural varieties of the high-bush species, as well as of other species, it is well to mark the plants to be taken up when in leaf or fruit. The genuine or true *Vaccinium corymbosum* bears quite large, round berries, covered with a blue bloom; but there is a variety with oval fruit, jet black, without bloom, and another with globular berries also destitute of bloom. Of the dwarf, early blueberry (*V. Pennsylvanicum*), common to high, dry and rather sterile soils, there are also several distinct natural varieties, one of which is an albino, the fruit being pure white and fully as transparent as the white grape currant.

In cultivating any of the huckleberries on sandy soils it is advantageous to keep them well mulched, thereby insuring an abundance of moisture at the roots, as well as preventing any baking and overheating of the surface soil. Under proper care and in rich soils the plants will grow far more rapidly and yield larger crops of fruit than when left to grow uncared for, as in their native habitats.—A. S. FULLER, in *American Agriculturist*.

#### HOW TO APPLY PARIS GREEN.

Not long ago I saw on Long Island what was to me a new way of applying Paris green. A farmer was riding a two-horse machine through his potato field, dropping the poison on four rows at a time and as fast as his team could walk. This work is usually performed by hand at great disadvantage. The poison is mixed with water and applied to a single row, of course—slow and heavy work. The poison is no doubt as effective when diluted with water as when mixed with dry powder. But the latter is most convenient, and I prefer cheap flour to plaster because it is